

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-12 are all the claims pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

**Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,860,747 to Wan et al. (hereinafter Wan) in view of US Patent 5,630,668 to Ikezawa et al. (hereinafter Ikezawa). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the references fail to teach or suggest all of the elements as set forth and arranged in the claims.

The Examiner has misunderstood Wan. Specifically, the Examiner cites to Wan col. 1, lines 23-29, as teaching a film made of manganese phosphate.<sup>1</sup> However, in column 1, line 24, Wan discloses “a manganese phosphate-coating in the cage pockets”. Note that the cage pocket is not an inner ring, outer ring, or rolling element surface, as claimed. Instead, the cage pocket is more akin to a retainer.

Thus, Wan does not teach or suggest “at least a first one of the inner ring race, the outer ring race and the rolling surface, comprises a first portion with a formed film made of a manganese phosphate” as set forth in clam 1. Similarly, Wan fails to teach or suggest “at least one of the inner ring race, the outer ring race, and the rolling surface, comprises a first portion which is comprising a smoothed formed film made of a manganese phosphate”, as set forth in claim 6.

Ikezawa does not cure the above-noted deficiency in Wan.

Accordingly, even assuming that one of ordinary skill in the art were motivated to combine the references as suggested by the Examiner, any such combination would still not teach or suggest a manganese phosphate film as set forth and arranged in the claims. Therefore, each one of claims 1 and 6 has unobviousness over Wan in view of Ikezawa. Likewise, dependent claims 2-5 and 7-12 are not rendered obvious by Wan and Ikezawa.

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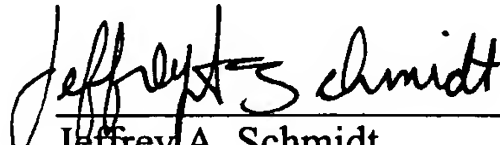
<sup>1</sup> August 17, 2005 Office Action at page 2, item 2, paragraph 2, lines 5-10.

**Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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